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The BG News December 4, 2003

Bowling Green State University

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DEFEAT:

The men's basketball team lost the MAC game yesterday with score of 82-64; PAGE 6

Bowling Green State University

BGSU NEWS

A daily independent student press

THURSDAY

December 4, 2003

P.M. SNOW

SHOWERS

HIGH: 38 LOW: 31

www.bgsunews.com
VOLUME 98 ISSUE 65

Class or the big game, pick wisely

By Jennie Swinarski
REPORTER

Are you stressed out wondering if you will make it to tomorrow night's MAC Championship game due to the fact that you have a 6-9 class on Thursdays?

Your answer lies in the hands of the individual professor who teaches the course. Sociology chairman Gary R. Lee said, "The

sociology department does not have a policy or general announcement of whether or not sociology classes will be held tomorrow. It is the professor's prerogative of what they choose to do and the department will support their decision on the matter. If the class is canceled professors will have to find a way for work to be made up in an

attentive manner by the end of the semester."

Although there are not many courses held on Thursdays from 6-9 at the university, there are still classes that plan to advance tomorrow despite the big game.

Junior Stephanie Thayer has a 6-6:50 p.m. class tomorrow, which has yet to be canceled and she does not plan on attending

either way. "This is the first time in years that a BGSU has hosted a MAC Championship game and there is no way I would miss it. There are many different aspects to college, which include not only learning, but social activities as well. This is a great way for our school to come together and promote BGSU. It is only one night of classes and who knows

when this will happen again", Thayer said.

Assistant professor of sociology Catherine Kaukinen, does not have a 6-9 class tomorrow and said, "If I taught tomorrow I would definitely have canceled class because I am going to the football game." Michael J. Sproule, director of communication studies said the school of

communication studies has no plans to make a school-wide announcement and the decision is up to the professor's of the classes. "Most professors have moved up or moved back tests to reflect students' concerns. Professors are doing the best jobs they can to benefit their students," Sproule said.

1,300 involved in Silent Solidarity

By Kara Hull
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Never before have such a large group of people on campus gained so much attention by making so little noise.

More than 1,300 students participated in the Silent Solidarity program Tuesday, sponsored by the Office of Residence Life. The program, in its fourth year, began as a Kohl Hall event and spread campuswide for the first time this year.

The program aims to raise awareness of those who lose their voices in society as a result of prejudice, ignorance and discrimination. Participants were given one of 117 titles—including Muslim, homeless, hearing impaired, atheist and others that typically may not be considered oppressed, like cheerleaders. Participants could not speak until 5 p.m. Tuesday.

Facilitation sessions at three on-campus locations were offered Tuesday night for students to discuss what they gleaned from the program.

Not being heard for a few hours gives students a taste of the challenges others face everyday, according to Brian Bickley, senior and coordinator of the program.

"Not talking puts the participant as a minority," he said. "It gives them a handicap ... and you make them have something that challenges them."

Masquerading as an individual that is often misunderstood and stereotyped in society, participants represented the likes of those people who are on campus, Bickley said.

And for senior and first time program participant Amanda Jones, this proved to be true.

SILENT PAGE 2

Quarter-laundry card swap a possibility

By Adam Wright
REPORTER

Every two weeks, junior Erika Rhodes lugs a laundry basket and a box crammed with film canisters full of quarters to her residence hall's laundry room.

Normally the worst problem is the intense weight that the box contributes to her heaping pile of dirty clothes. Sometimes, however, her problems multiply when she realizes that she forgot her box entirely.

"That's such a pain," she said. "You either have to trust the people in the laundry room with your clothes or you have to carry the clothes back to the room with you to get the quarters."

As in Rhodes' case, transporting bulky coins to and from residence hall laundry rooms has long been a problem for on-campus students. Fortunately, if Jim Zentmeyer, associate director of Residence Life, has his way this will never be a problem again.

"We have been a coin-operated laundry service for eons," he said. "And it's definitely time to move on."

Zentmeyer wants to use the Offenhauer laundry room in a pilot program that will allow students to swipe a card instead of using quarters to wash and dry their clothes. The program could be implemented as early as next semester.

No decisions have been made on what type of card-swiping system will be implemented.

One option is the use of prepaid cards, much like those used at copy machines across campus. Another is a system in which residents would type their student identification number into laundry machines and the money used would be deducted from a flat fee paid at the beginning of each semester.

Funds for the program will



Julie DiFranco BG News

SO FRESH, SO CLEAN: Lyndsey Stepp and Jason Daury wash their clothes at the laundry room in Offenhauer Towers. Coin operated machines may be replaced with a debit card system next semester.

come from the already existing maintenance repair budget.

Zentmeyer, who is working closely with the Office of Residence Life and the Resident Student Association on the program, will be inspecting Offenhauer's laundry room and speaking with various departments on campus until the end of the semester.

Zentmeyer hopes that the obstacles to the program will dissolve in that time.

"Laundry is not rocket science," he said. "It shouldn't have to wait for some of the more intricate concerns with a one-card system to move forward."

The main concerns are finding the most effective card-swiping

system to use and fixing laundry rooms that cannot handle the new card technology.

According to Zentmeyer, this is why the Offenhauer laundry room was chosen as the first to test the program. It is the largest centralized laundry room on campus and is heavily wired, meaning it has the greatest possibility of being able to support the new technology.

If the program begins next semester as planned, Zentmeyer will be watching closely to discern if the technology meets the needs of students. If, by the end of the semester students like the new payment option, he hopes to install similar technology in all of the residence halls.

Stacy Moots, a sophomore living in Offenhauer, is excited about the program. She says parents will appreciate it because they will no longer have to distribute bulky rolls of quarters to their children and students will like it because they will no longer have to ration out laundry money.

"It's would be so much easier to just swipe a card instead of carrying around all those quarters," she said.

Samantha Penington, a sophomore living in Conklin, hopes the program comes to her residence hall, too, but for slightly different reasons.

"My roommate steals all my quarters," she said.

"The last couple of nights it was about 25 degrees, which helps harden the field up, which has really been a blessing."

JEFF HAAG, HEAD GROUNDSKEEPER

24 tons of sand used to ready the Doyt

By Sean Corp
PULSE WRITER

Though the Falcons walked away with a 31-23 win over rival Toledo, the MAC West title and a chance to challenge Miami for the MAC championship, not everything looked as victorious after Saturday's game at Doyt Perry Stadium. The playing field was a mess.

James Elsasser, assistant athletic director of internal affairs, said the muddy conditions were a result of more than expected rainfall leading up to the game.

"It really caught us by surprise," he said, but added that the chance of a recurrence for today's game was slim.

The weather forecast calls for overcast skies with a nighttime low of 31 degrees. There is only a 30 percent chance of rain.

Jeff Haag, head groundskeeper at Doyt Perry Stadium, acknowledged that, while the field was very muddy after last week's game, the conditions were nothing he was not expecting.

"The hardest part to get it back in shape is between the hash marks, which is normal because that is where most of the play takes place anyway," he said.

Haag and his team have been working since Sunday in order to get everything into the best shape possible for today's contest. First they covered the area between the hash marks with a layer of sand. Then they had to drag the field in every direction in order to work the sand into the field and smooth everything out and get rid of divots. All together, the grounds keepers have gone through over 24 tons of sand, according to Haag.

The next step is to roll the field with a series of devices that are similar to a typical lawn roller, only 10 times bigger and pulled across the field on a tractor. "I rolled the field twice on Monday," said Haag. "I did it again [Tuesday] ... and then based on how the ground feels to me [this morning], I may roll it again."

Fortunately for Haag and his crew, the recent cold nights have helped to ensure good playing conditions for the game. "The last couple of nights it was about 25 degrees, which helps harden the field up, which has really been a blessing," adding, "I wouldn't anticipate it getting fairly muddy again."

Don't neglect health for the game

By Dan Myers
PULSE WRITER

For the first time, Bowling Green's football team is in a MAC Championship game, and fans are getting ready to watch them take on Miami University. But, before going to the Doyt, you might want to take the weather into consideration.

Arthur Samel, associate professor of geography said, "Basically what I'm [predicting]

is light precipitation during the game, and it will either be snow or a very cold rain."

"Temps will be right around 30-35 degrees," Samel said. "I don't think wind is going to be a big factor. It'll probably be coming from the east-northeast. For tomorrow, we'll be looking at 10-15 mph. So, probably a light breeze, not a roaring wind."

To prepare for this kind of weather, Amy Dugen, a nurse

practitioner at the Health Center said to dress in layers, and the layer closest to the skin should be thermal underwear. Heavy socks and boots, a hat, probably a scarf around the neck, warm gloves and a wind resistant heavy jacket are all things fans should wear to the game said Dugen.

The Health Center has been receiving a lot of patients due to the cold weather this year.

"We're swamped," Dugen said, "a lot of influenza, upper respiratory infections, sore throats, that's what we're seeing right now."

Fans with a high fever are recommended to stay at home, while those with only runny noses should be able to go to the game without their conditions degenerating very much. "If you have the flu, stay home. Do not expose others," said Dugen.

For those who feel like they are just coming down with an illness, there are a few basic actions that can be taken to stay healthy until and during the game. Increasing one's intake of fluids, getting extra rest, taking Tylenol for any aches and pains and getting something warm to drink at the stadium can all help any fan stay healthy enough to see the game.

FOUR-DAY FORECAST

The four-day forecast is taken from weather.com

FRIDAY



Snow

High: 34°
Low: 20°

SATURDAY



Mostly Sunny

High: 34°
Low: 15°

SUNDAY



Sunny

High: 35°
Low: 17°

MONDAY



Partly Cloudy

High: 42°
Low: 28°

FOR ALL THE NEWS VISIT WWW.BGNEWS.COM

BG was in Moeller's heart from the start

"He loved BG and he was trying to make us proud,"

KEVIN MOELLER

By Kara Hull
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Though he only had the chance to walk on campus for a few months, the University already had a special place in the heart of sophomore Douglas Moeller.

Moeller was the sole fatality in a street brawl early Sunday morning near his hometown of Vandalia, Ohio, a suburb of Dayton. He transferred to the University this semester after attending two years at Edison Community College in Piqua.



Douglas Moeller

Here, Moeller was an undecided major in the College of Business Administration.

According to Douglas' parents, their son's heart was always at BG. In fact, Douglas wanted to start his college career off at the

University and was frustrated with his parents for encouraging him to attend Edison first to bring up his grades, according to Douglas' mother Cindy.

"He loved BG and he was trying to make us proud," Douglas' father Kevin said. "I know he loved the kids at BG."

Describing him as a person with a huge heart and never-ending smile, Douglas was the best when it came to protecting his friends, Kevin said. It may have been this instinct accompanied by his one flaw — drinking — that played a role that night.

"He made a mistake the other night," Kevin said. "He knew how to throw punches, but he didn't think about others not fighting that way."

Even after his death, Douglas' impact on the University community continues to be seen, Cindy said.

"He was an amazing student," she said. "We're amazed at how many students he touched at BG."

Douglas will be buried next to Jacquelyn E. Ahlers, one of the six students killed in a car crash over spring break 2002 at the offer of the Ahlers family, also of Vandalia.

Visitation for Douglas will be held today from 4-8 p.m. at St. Christopher Catholic Church, 435 E. National Rd., Vandalia, Ohio. The funeral service will be held tomorrow at 10 a.m. also at St. Christopher.

Abortion 'terrorist' guilty

By David B. Caruso
ASSOCIATED PRESS

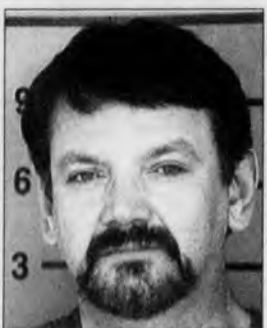
PHILADELPHIA — A self-described "terrorist" who told jurors that people who provide abortions should be shot was convicted yesterday on charges that he mailed envelopes of fake anthrax to women's clinics in an attempt to shut them down.

A federal jury deliberated for a few hours before finding Clayton Wagner guilty on 51 of 53 counts, including the most serious charge: threatening to use a weapon of mass destruction.

Wagner, who once made the FBI's "10 Most Wanted" list, could face decades in prison when he is sentenced. He is already serving a 49-year term for car theft and weapons violations.

The quick conviction followed a 2 1/2 week trial, during which Wagner represented himself.

Following the verdict, Wagner shook hands with prosecutors



AP Photo

JAIL BIRD: Clayton Lee Wagner, an anti-abortion extremist charged with mailing hundreds of envelopes of fake anthrax to women's clinics, concluded his defense in federal court.

and told U.S. District Judge Anita Brody, "It was fun." He said he intends to appeal.

In a rambling closing argument delivered hours earlier, Wagner argued that the government had not proven its case, but stopped short of declaring himself innocent.

He told jurors he was "tickled" that someone had sent letters containing death threats and white powder to clinics in 24 states in 2001. Wagner added that only his abhorrence for killing prevented him from doing "what I should have done: shooting them — abortionists and clinic workers — in the head."

He acknowledged that he has repeatedly confessed to sending the letters, but suggested he may have only been taking credit falsely for an act he admired.

"Is my story true? That's for you to decide," Wagner said. "I'm not going to stand here and tell you I didn't do it."

Wagner was acquitted of two counts in which the government claimed that he had posted a

threatening message on the Internet, warning that he planned to kill clinic workers.

Prosecutors said there is no question Wagner was behind the letters, which were sent at the same time that real anthrax attacks were killing people in 2001.

Wagner, 47, of Kennerdell, was awaiting sentencing on gun charges when he escaped from prison in February 2001. He was on the run for 10 months before he was recaptured leaving a copy shop near Cincinnati.

Authorities said evidence found in the stolen Mercedes he was driving included copies of the death threats, the addresses of the targeted clinics and a detailed log that included entries like, "mailed anthrax" and "faxed FBI bomb threat."

Wagner told jurors he had dedicated his life to disrupting clinics.

Students respond well to program

SILENT, FROM PAGE 1

Jones, who works in the Office of Residence Life, was initially skeptical about the impact of the program, but soon changed her mind.

"It's very representative to the fact that their voice is taken away," she said. "... it's much more representative [of the student body] than I thought it was going to be."

Participants were met with a variety of responses — some more supportive than others — from fellow students. It was those responses reflecting ignorance of the purpose of the program that students found most disheartening, said Heath Huber, community educator at the Women's Center and facilitator of one of Tuesday night's sessions.

"What I found interesting about it is not so much of not being able to talk, but what seemed to affect the students the most were the reactions they would get from other people," he said. "From what I got from students, [some] thought what they were doing was silly. They didn't seem to take them seriously ... and that was frustrating for them."

But meeting with such frustrations just means that there's more work to be done on campus battling stereotypes and ignorance on these issues, said Sarah Conway, senior and participant.

"Most initial reactions [I received] were positive, but I did get those that were negative," she said. "But that's why we have this program."

ONLINE POLL

Should residence halls offer a quarterless laundry option?
Yes or No?

To voice your opinion visit: www.bgnews.com



Rachel Kasunic AP Photo

CRIME SCENE: Police tape and duct tape to seal a fourth floor room at Kent State University's Korb Hall after the body of a student was found in the room.

Body found in Kent dorm

ASSOCIATED PRESS

KENT, Ohio — The body of a 29-year-old student was found Tuesday evening in her dormitory room at Kent State University. The identity wasn't immediately released by campus authorities. The cause and time of death were under investigation. An autopsy was ordered for yesterday.

Scott Rainone, a university spokesman, said the woman's parents hadn't heard from her in a couple weeks, so they called the Korb Hall residence hall staff Tuesday evening. Her body was found in her room. Korb Hall is a residence hall for upperclassmen and graduate students and is limited to single-bed rooms.

BG NEWS BRIEFING

Correction

The stabbing of University student Douglas Moeller occurred within the city limits of Huber Heights, Ohio. The BG News apologizes for the error.

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GREEK AFFAIRS TO HOST LECTURE

Lawrence C. Ross will be speaking at 7 p.m. in 111 Olscamp. He is the author of *The Divine Nine: The history of African American Fraternities and Sororities*. Topics discussed will include pledging, hazing and interfraternal relations. The event is sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. and the Office of Greek Affairs.

www.bgnews.com/campus

CAMPUS

get a life

The calendar of events is taken from
http://www.bgsu.edu/calendar/calendar.html

8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Ceramics Exhibit
Union Galleries

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Skating Ticket Sales
Union Lobby

9 - 11 a.m.
March for Poverty
Social Work students will be
collecting hygiene supplies for
a homeless shelter.
Union Lobby

10 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.
ESPN Magazine Fundraiser
Union Lobby

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
54th Annual Faculty/Staff
Exhibition
Dorothy Uher Bryan Gallery

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
American Self Taught Artists
Willard Wankelman Gallery

10:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.
Snow Globe Sale
Alpha Epsilon Delta will be
sponsoring this fundraiser for
Dance Marathon.
Union Lobby

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Halo Tournament Table
Fundraiser for Dance
Marathon, sponsored by Sigma
Phi Epsilon.
Union Lobby

11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
ANO Promotion
Union Lobby

11:15 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Kwanzaa Table
Union Lobby

4 - 5 p.m.
Women's Dissertation Writing
Group
An interdisciplinary group
open to any woman in the writ-
ing process of her program,
whether at the
preliminary/comprehensive
exam stage or the disserta-
tion/thesis stage. Please feel
free to join us any Thursday to
see if this group works for you.
Contact Maria DeRose for fur-
ther details:
mderose@bgsu.net.bgsu.edu.
107 Hanna Hall

6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
University Dance Alliance
Social and trip to World
Percussion Night
The University Dance Alliance

will be having a social includ-
ing food, games, and
videos. Afterwards, we will all
travel to Koblacker Hall to see
World Percussion Night.
The University Dance Alliance
is a student organization under
the auspices of the
Dance Program of HMSLS.
222 Eppler North

7 - 11 p.m.
Musicians Guild Concert
228-Multipurpose Room

8 p.m.
World Percussion Night
Concert featuring the Kusuma
Sari Gamelan under the direc-
tion of Dr. David Harnish
and the Afro-Caribbean
Ensemble under the direction
of Dr. Steven Cornelius. Free
and open to the public.
Koblacker Hall

8 p.m.
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shows at the Union.
Black Swamp Pub

PLAYING IT UP
MARCHING BAND

Ashley Kuntz BG News

STEPPING UP: Stephanie Siedlecki, junior, practices her baton movements yesterday afternoon with the Falcon Marching Band for the MAC Championship game. The game is tonight at 7 p.m.

THE BLOTTER

Tuesday:

An ill female student was trans-
ported to Wood County Hospital from
Offenhauer West by the Bowling Green
Fire Department.

Complainant reported his Fugi road
bike was stolen.

Complainant reported her wallet
was taken from her purse while she
was at the bookstore.

Complainant reported that money
was stolen from his room in Conklin.
Jason P. Dempsey, Pittsburgh,
Penn. was cited for traffic control

device and driving under suspension.

Complainant reported his bike
stolen from Jerome Library.

Female advised someone towed her
car from the parking lot at the church
the University just bought.

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Dec. 9th 9am-2pm
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QUOTEUNQUOTE

"If they're going to inconvenience me ... then they are going to be inconvenienced for processing my payment."

Bellevue, Wash., resident TAMMY SULLY, on paying a \$36 parking ticket in pennies. The box set off a bomb scare that led to the evacuation of 50 city employees.

(newsweek.com)

www.bgnews.com/opinion

OPINION

Game attendance vs. class attendance

Just when you think the Falcons have had their biggest game of the season, you look ahead on the schedule and realize the games keep getting bigger.

It began with Bowling Green vs. Purdue. Then the Falcons played Ohio State. Next came the NIU game, which drew the attention of GameDay. After that was the Miami University game. Lastly, the Falcons played their arch rivals, UT.

In a 12-game season, the Falcons have had five big games. Of these five games, two have been nationally televised at Doyt Perry stadium, something that hadn't happened in Bowling Green until this season.

In addition to the national attention the team has received this season, two of the teams that the Falcons played were from the Big Ten conference, and the Falcons even defeated one of those teams. A person could

argue for hours as to which game is the biggest. However, the biggest may be yet to come.

Tonight's game should prove to be one of the biggest Falcon football games of the season and in Falcon football history. If Bowling Green defeats Miami University at Doyt Perry stadium tomorrow, then they will be guaranteed a spot in a bowl game. Bowling Green hasn't been in a bowl game since the 1992 Las Vegas Bowl.

However, there is a downside to tomorrow night's game — the fact that it is on school night.

The game kicks off at 7 p.m. The tailgating and hype will no doubt start much sooner.

What kind of reaction can students expect from professors? Teachers should expect lower attendance in class tomorrow due to all of the hype that the game is fueling.

It is no secret that, in the past, Bowling Green fans have been

less than enthusiastic about their sports teams, especially football. The University has long desired to have higher attendance rates at football games. Well, now they have it.

However, higher attendance for weekday games could mean lower attendance rates for classes on day of the game. This poses a problem for those students whose professors have an attendance policy which normally allows for three unexcused

absences.

It would have been nice to have classes cancelled, but that it is too late for that now. What we would like to see is some leniency from the professors who teach late afternoon and evening classes. Students are going to skip class to get a good seat at tomorrow's game. So be prepared and please be lenient.

You asked for school spirit, well not you have it. Go Falcons.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Guantanamo Bay prison is inhumane

With the threat of international terrorism, America has responded by indefinitely detaining suspects at Camp X-Ray, an isolated prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Recently, legal issues have surrounded this.

The legal issues include indefinite detention of 660 prisoners (some for at least two years), juvenile prisoners, two American citizens among the prison population and denied visits from lawyers and family members. This is only what the American government has officially said while much more remains secret. Such treatment seems inhumane.

Prisoners are kept in outdoor cells, exposed to the elements. In late May 2003, Amnesty International charged America with keeping the "unlawful combatants" in violation of international law and human rights. This was contended by a White House spokesman as stating prisoners are treated in humane ways.

The mere fact that some of the 660 prisoners have been held for two years, exposed to the elements in outside wire cages is enough of a human right abuse itself.

Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations states "No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment." Outside prison cages and indefinite incarceration is inhumane enough to be labeled as so.

The justification of declaring prisoners "unlawful combatants"

is merely a legal justification, which does not necessarily make it morally justified. The prisoners are intentionally kept off of American soil so basic legal protections do not come into effect. As a member of Amnesty International and an American citizen, I must wholly condemn the brutal treatment of prisoners at Camp X-Ray.

The inhumane treatment to which the prisoners are subject shows how passive the people are. I hardly see any expressions of disapproval about these policies in the University community. Why has there been no popular movement, advocating basic legal rights that all human beings should be entitled to regardless of the crime?

Until this problem is solved and the prisoners at Camp X-Ray are treated fairly and actually charged with a certain crime, the human rights abuse continue. Communities and nations should pride themselves on human rights, not become abusers of them.

Do you believe this is a blatant abuse of human rights? Are you concerned about the growing human rights abuses by the United States and other foreign countries? If so, then join Amnesty International every Monday in 101 BA at 9:15 p.m.

MATT TRIVELLI
STUDENT

Commuters are a different type of people

I have been taking in all the information that has been in The BG News about commuters. I have taken it in stride, but a flier

on the window of the bookstore really angered me.

It essentially stated that commuters are a bunch of whiners and that the situation could be worse. I thought of a few questions that I would ask if I met up with the person who posted the flier.

Questions like: How many children do you wake up and get ready each morning? How long does it take you to get to campus each morning? How many days a week do you work to save up for your parking pass and any tickets you might have to pay?

When you are supporting a family, you know where it comes from.

Commuters are a different type of people, especially us non-traditional types of students. We have all the pressures of school plus an adult grown up life. We are justified in our complaints because we actively support the campus with our own money and not our parents.

I am not trying to say that there aren't on campus individuals who work hard or pay their own dues, but I will bet that a greater amount of the commuters do.

We pay for parking lots with lakes in the middle of them, gravel-covered lots and oversold passes. If we do not speak up, we too will have charges equivalent to the other colleges. We will hold tightly onto our pocketbooks as the college digs deeper with student fees and tuition increases. Parking spaces should not break the bank.

Thank you for your time. I did not feel that this was a personal attack, but a response to a person who wanted to slander and remain anonymous.

AMBUR JOHNSON
STUDENT

PEOPLE ON THE STREET

What do you dislike most about Miami University?



DICK KENDALL
JUNIOR,
INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

"Their students are under-educated, over-dressed and their QB is a little girl."



KYLE DOBBINS
FRESHMAN, UNDECIDED

"Who cares. They're terrible. Muck Fiami."



MICHEAL RUTHER
SOPHOMORE,
SECONDARY EDUCATION

"I have to listen to my Miami friend brag about the first game."



BOB SPROUSE
SOPHOMORE,
SECONDARY EDUCATION

"All the yuppies that go there."

Readers: negative feedback preferred



ZACH HERMAN
Opinion Columnist

Ask any writer about the most rewarding aspect of his or her profession, and you'll likely get the same answer: It's all about the audience. The knowledge that there are people out there who take the time to read what you write is the finest form of compensation (although I do appreciate my \$7-per-week stipend).

When those readers take time out of their busy schedules to correspond with you about your work, it is a little extra bonus. That is why I so appreciate the comments occasionally left for me on The BG News Web site where my columns also appear, or the people who stop me in the bathroom of my residence hall to complement my work as I brush my teeth.

In general, the feedback is fairly positive. Those who enjoy what I write have no trouble saying so, and those who do not are usually good liars. But every so often, something I publish so genuinely offends someone's sensibilities, they can not hold their feelings back. Self-censorship is useless; restraint is impossible. And that is when I read messages like the ones I received after my April review of a new CD by the New York-based independent band Retisonic.

Now, I was not particularly fond of the band's style, but I certainly did not hate them, and I thought my comments were very measured. The first person to disagree with my assessment was Eric Friedman, a computer programmer and Retisonic devotee from Fairlawn, N.J. "Zach Herman's lame review ... couldn't be farther from the truth," he wrote. "His negativity to a band of this talent is almost humorous."

Normally this kind of harsh criticism would sting a bit, but I was so flattered to receive my first negative notice that I couldn't be bothered with the details.

But the furor didn't end there. My C+ review also drew the attention of someone I assume to be the band's lead singer, Jason Farrell. "You are the first reviewer to see through our wafer-thin façade," he said by way of congratulations. "Feel smart ... we think you are."

This response inspired two thoughts: one, I can't believe how cool it is to get a letter from the lead singer; and two, it seems like Farrell is better at sarcasm than he is at punk rock.

The third and best condescending letter came from Eric of Massachusetts, whose remarks I will now quote in their entirety. Typically, I'm a proponent of the whole brevity thing, but I feel Eric's true feelings are most evident with proper context.

"What an insanely ignorant dismissal of a band so steeped in complexity and subtlety and rawness. Your oafish remarks and obvious attempts at high-brow banter fall so far from the mark I'm not sure what country you're rotting in."

Believe me when I say that reading those 39 words was one of the happiest moments of my life up to that point. To inspire such vitriol is a great tribute, indeed, and a sign that I'm earning my meager wage.

Now, I've written plenty of columns since then, and most have received little or no feedback. No matter what I do, I can't seem to provoke the kind of negative public reaction that my colleague Matt Sussman has built his reputation on. But the response to my most recent column, about my disappointment with the latest Matrix sequel, brought back some old memories.

Joe, a University student, listed several paragraphs of grievances about my piece, but expertly summarized his thought in a single rhetorical jewel. "Do you even know what you're talking about?"

Ah, just like old times. I love it. Keep that hate mail coming, readers. The more angry words I receive and republish, the less space I have to fill on my own.

Did you know?

Should there be a crash, Prince William and Prince Charles never travel on the same airplane as a precaution.

PHIL MACHI

Cartoonist



The BG News Submission Policy

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR are to be fewer than 500 words. These are usually in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

GUEST COLUMNS are longer pieces between 600 and 800 words. These are usually also in response to a current issue on the University's campus or the Bowling Green area.

POLICIES

Letters to the Editor and Guest Columns are printed as space on the Opinion Page permits. Additional Letters to the Editor or Guest Columns may be published online. Name, year and phone number should be included for verification purposes. Personal attacks, unverified information or anonymous submissions will not be printed.

E-mail submissions as an attachment to thenews@bgnews.com with the subject line marked "Letter to the Editor" or "Guest Column." Only e-mailed letters and columns will be considered for printing. All letters are subject to review for length and clarity before printing.

Opinion columns do not necessarily reflect the views of The BG News.

BG NEWS

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ACCUSED KIDNAPPER AGREES TO MOVE

CROOKSTON, Minn. (AP) — Alfonso Rodriguez Jr., the man accused of kidnapping a college student from a mall parking lot, agreed to be sent to North Dakota to face charges yesterday, saying barely a word even after an outburst from a woman in the courtroom who pleaded, "Tell us what you did with the girl!"

NATION

www.bgnews.com/nation

Columbus residents change routines

By Anita Chang
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Parents nervously took their children by the hand and walked them to school. Teachers were given maps to help them get to work without using the highway nearby. Outdoor recess was canceled for the rest of the week.

A deadly series of 12 shootings around here since May — including one in which a bullet broke a window at Hamilton Central Elementary School last month in the middle of the night — have unnerved parents, motorists and others.

The shootings — which investigators believe are connected — have taken place around a five-mile stretch of Interstate 270. One woman in a car was killed last week.

"Until they catch him, there's no way they're getting on the bus," said Michelle Maupin, who changed her routine to drop her 7-year-old daughter off at school. Yesterday, police used dogs to search woods for a weapon after residents reported a gunshot near the sites of the shootings. Columbus police spokeswoman Sherry Mercurio said officers were talking to a man, and later led a handcuffed man away from

the direction of the woods. But authorities say the case is probably not related to the shootings.

At Hamilton Central Elementary, police officers and sheriff's deputies watched over students arriving and leaving the brick school, which has 468 students in kindergarten through third grade. Three boys waved cheerily at an officer stationed at the door.

Some parents said they were not comfortable with their children being at class. Seventy students were absent yesterday, according to the school system, almost double the usual number.

"We told them if anybody comes into the school, to get under the desk and hide," Maupin said.

Hamilton Central, about two miles from I-270, sits along a rural road, with a high school on one side and a school administration building on the other.

Colleen McGowan normally walks with her daughter along a gravel path to the edge of school property. But yesterday, she walked the second-grader into the school building. "I told her I'd be picking her up and taking her every day," McGowan said.

McGowan, 30, said she thought it was important for her 7-year-

old daughter, Savannah, to be in school despite the danger. "You can't keep them home and keep them from their education," she said.

"I ain't a bit scared. If you're going to get killed, you're going to get it," said J.J. Stamper, 76, as he drank coffee at a McDonald's nearby.

But Yvonne Marcello, 47, said she is almost paralyzed with fear when she thinks about the shootings and crime in general in her neighborhood.

"I don't go out very often. I shouldn't feel so scared, but I do," said Marcello, who does not have a car and has to walk everywhere.

Yesterday, only about half of the tables were occupied at China City restaurant less than a mile from I-270.

"We were busier before the shootings," said manager Jeffrey Zhu. "I asked a lot of customers. They usually drive this way, but not anymore."

As he left the slower-than-usual Los Camperos Mexican restaurant next door, Bob LaGore, 45, said he, too, is worried about driving on I-270.

"I drive slouched down in the seat," he said.



Paul Vernon AP Photo

COLUMBUS SHOOTING: Local law enforcement officers sort out the events outside a Columbus, Ohio, apartment complex yesterday where they were investigating a report of a gunshot in the woods near Interstate 270. A spokesman from the Franklin County Sheriff's department said that he did not believe the incident was related to the recent spate of highway shootings near the Interstate.

Police struggle caused victim's death



Al Behrman AP Photo

DEATH IN CUSTODY: Cincinnati Police Chief Thomas Streicher watches police video showing an altercation with Nathaniel James on Sunday. The video was shown during a scheduled meeting of the Cincinnati City Council yesterday. Jones died in police custody Sunday morning in Cincinnati.

By John Nolan
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — The death of a 350-pound black man who collapsed after being clubbed by police in a videotaped beating was caused primarily by the struggle, the coroner said yesterday in a case that has heightened racial tensions.

Hamilton County Coroner Carl Parrott said Nathaniel Jones, 41, suffered from an enlarged heart, obesity and had intoxicating levels of cocaine, PCP and methanol in his blood.

He said the death will be ruled a homicide, but added that such a decision does not mean police used "excessive force." The coroner said he had to rule the death a homicide because it did not fall under the other categories: accident, suicide or natural.

"Since the struggle was the result of a purposeful act, in this case, the effort by the police to subdue him, to do their jobs, that purposeful act was a primary cause of death," Parrott said.

Black activists say Jones' death was another example of police brutality against blacks in a city that was rocked by race riots two years ago. That unrest was sparked after a white police officer shot and killed an unarmed fleeing black suspect.

But city officials have said the officers in the current case were

properly defending themselves against a violent suspect. The officers — five whites and one black — were placed on administrative leave, which is standard procedure.

The struggle occurred early Sunday after an employee at a White Castle called 911 to report that a man had passed out on the lawn outside. Emergency personnel arrived and reported that the man was awake and "becoming a nuisance," according to police radio transmissions.

The first two arriving officers were shown on a police video striking Jones after he ignored orders to "stay back," took a swing at an officer and put his arm around one's neck.

The officers later knocked Jones to the ground and fell on him, and jabbed or clubbed him with nightsticks at least a dozen times over several minutes until he was handcuffed. They kept yelling, "Put your hands behind your back!" as they struggled to handcuff him.

Jones' body had bruising on the lower half, but did not show signs of blows to the head or organ damage, the coroner said.

In Jones' car, police found cocaine and three hand-rolled cigarettes that had been dipped in methanol, an ingredient in embalming fluid that gets people high, authorities said.

His death certificate will list a cause of death as an irregular heart beat because of a stress reaction from the violent struggle, Parrott said.

The ruling came shortly after lawyers for Jones' family called for an independent investigation, claiming the coroner has mis-handled past cases.

"It's hard for me to believe anything that comes out of the coroner's office," attorney Kenneth Lawson said at a news conference.

Relatives said Jones was a loving person who never hurt anyone.

"They talk about Skip like he was an animal," said his grandmother, Bessie Jones. "He wasn't. Skipper was just a good old, fat jolly fella. He wasn't violent."

"Everyone he met, that he touched, loved him," said his aunt, Diane Payton. "He was never mean."

Parrott said he has full confidence in his office's findings.

"We're doing things in the way everyone else does it. We're doing it to national and international standards," he said.

John Ester, spokesman for the prosecutor's office, said the office was in the preliminary stages of investigating the scuffle and was still awaiting the results of a police investigation.

What Bowling Green city street sign has to be replaced the most?

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**Thunder Stix can be
picked up at Union**

Fans looking to make a little extra noise at tonight's Bowling Green-Miami Mid-American Conference game will be able to pick up Thunder Stix.

The stix will be available to the first 5,000 students at the information desk at the Bowen Thompson Student Union.

**Listen to the game
on 88.1 FM WBGU!**

The BG-Miami game for the Mid-American Conference title will be on 88.1FM WBGU. Erik Bell and Brian George will be on the call, with the Ziggy Zomba's Countdown to Kickoff show starting at 6 p.m.

**Log on to answer
our poll question**

Check out bgnews.com to answer our online poll about the BGSU football team.

No skip yet for Reds team

By Joe Kay

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Two weeks after they pared down their list of manager candidates, the Cincinnati Reds haven't picked one.

The club has interviewed four candidates for the job, which it originally hoped to fill before Thanksgiving. General manager Dan O'Brien said Tuesday that no other candidates are being considered.

Interim manager Dave Miley, former White Sox manager Jerry Manuel, Pittsburgh player development director Brian Graham and Tampa Bay coach John McLaren were interviewed last month.

O'Brien said there are no plans for a second round of interviews.

"Granted, we're being very deliberate, but that's with the express purpose of trying to make the right decision," O'Brien said. "We're trying to be as thorough as we can."

The decision isn't entirely up to O'Brien, who was hired on Oct. 27. Chief operating officer John Allen and owner Carl Lindner also are involved in picking the manager who will take over a team in transition.

The Reds moved into Great American Ball Park last season but fared so poorly that manager Bob Boone and general manager Jim Bowden were fired on July 28. The club then went on a payroll-slashing spree, trading its top veterans to other teams for pitching prospects.

Lindner is expected to cut the payroll significantly for next season, limiting what O'Brien can do in his first job as a general manager.

Miley was considered the front-runner based upon his 24 years of experience in the organization. He got the interim managing job — his first chance to run a major league team — after Boone was fired.

The Reds went 22-35 under Miley, who had to deal with a team in flux because of the flurry of trades.

O'Brien wants to have a manager picked before baseball's winter meetings Dec. 12-15 in New Orleans. The club has its annual fan festival this weekend.



SPORTS

THURSDAY

December 4,
2003

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www.bgnews.com/sports

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY

Bulls top BG in MAC opener

By Elliott Schreiner
SPORTS REPORTER

The Bowling Green men's basketball team has had a disappointing season to say the least. While most teams that start the season 2-1 would be happy, it is not quite good enough for the Falcons.

But the Falcons had a chance to right themselves and play up to their potential for the first time this season and it didn't look like their was a better place to do it than at the Alumni Center in Buffalo. After all, Buffalo was coming in with a less than

impressive 0-3 record and had previously lost all nine games they played against the Falcons.

But the Falcons would once again come out flat in their MAC opener, allowing the Bulls to gain their first victory of the season, 82-64.

"We're not getting anything from a number of our players," head coach Dan Dakich said. "And that's disappointing."

The Falcons would jump out to an early 5-0 lead before succumbing to a sea of turnovers and missed opportunities throughout the rest of the game.

"We're not a very good basketball team right now," Dakich said. "We're not in a position at the guard spot where we handle the ball well."

Not only did the Falcons play poorly, but the Bulls helped themselves out too, scoring a season-high 82 points, well above their season average of 58 points per game.

Turner Battle led the Bulls charge with 17 points while making his final nine free throws of the game to keep the Falcons out of the game during late runs. He was helped by a total effort

from his teammates which included Daniel Gilbert, who finished with 14 points.

"My hats off to Buffalo," Dakich said. "They came ready to play."

It didn't help that four Falcons fouled out. Center Kevin Netter led the foul out parade when he got his fifth with seven minutes left in the game. He was followed by Steven Wright, Ron Lewis and Josh Almansan.

The lone bright spot for the Falcons came from newcomer Austin Montgomery. The first year guard finished the game

with 20 points and four three pointers.

One of the reasons for the Falcons' letdown was the loss of forward John Reimold, who will be out for at least a week with a leg injury.

"Without Reimold, we're soulless," Dakich said. "I told the team I thought the only guy that has played at a championship type level in practice has been John."

The Falcons will look to rebound this Saturday at Anderson Arena against Northwestern.

One more time, for the title

Miami confident, ready for MAC rematch

By Zach Baker
SPORTS EDITOR

The Bowling Green football team and Miami football team had played each other for 51 consecutive seasons before last season.

Miami head coach Terry Hoepfner said it's fitting that the two long time rivals should meet for the Mid-American Conference title.

"We missed last year, so we're making it up by playing them twice this year," Hoepfner said yesterday. "We're very excited, and we're ready to go."

Miami is coming into this game with a bit of an edge in recent head-to-head games. Not only did Miami hand BG its only conference loss of this season, but they also were the last team to beat BG at Doyt Perry Stadium, 24-21, in November of 2001.

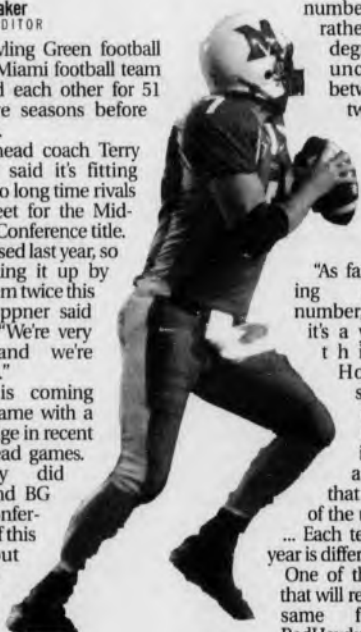
But Hoepfner said that Miami does not have BG's

number, but rather a degree of uncertainty between the two teams because they did not play last season.

"As far as having anyone's number, I think it's a year-year thing," Hoepfner said.

"The uniqueness now is there is always that element of the unknown ... Each team each year is different."

One of the things that will remain the same for the RedHawks is their quarterback, Ben Roethlisberger. The quarter-



REDHAWKS PAGE 7

BG focused on RedHawks, not on possible bowl game implications

By Dan Gedney

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Falcons and the RedHawks have fought hard in their first 12 games of the season. They played those games with one goal in mind, playing on Dec. 4.

Now the day has come and the game is here. The best of the West, Bowling Green, meets the best of the East, Miami, with the winner claiming the title of 2003 Mid-American Conference Champion.

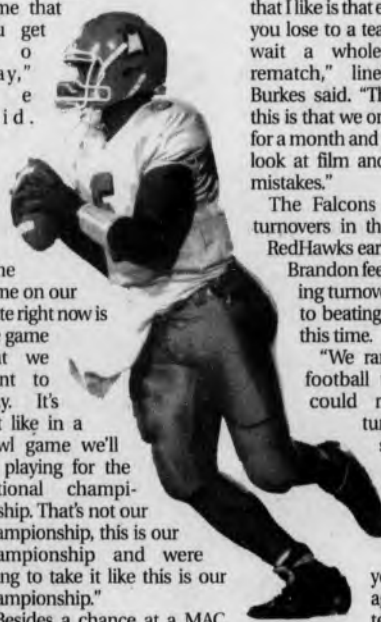
The RedHawks (11-1, 8-0 MAC) already know that they have one more game after tonight's game. The RedHawks are slated to take on Louisville in the GMAC Bowl on Dec. 18 in Mobile, Ala. The Falcons (10-2, 7-1 MAC) however, are still unsure of their bowl fate. Motor City Bowl representative Peter Hoffman said that BG was "in the driver's seat" for a Motor City Bowl berth, but would not declare who would represent the MAC in the game until after tonight's game. Quarterback Josh Harris is keeping his focus on tonight's game.

"We don't really care necessarily about a bowl, that's just

one extra game that you get to play," he said.

"The game on our plate right now is the game that we want to play. It's not like in a bowl game we'll be playing for the national championship. That's not our championship, this is our championship and were going to take it like this is our championship."

Besides a chance at a MAC title, tonight's game provides the Falcons with a chance to get revenge on the RedHawks, who beat the Falcons 33-10 one month ago in Oxford.



"The thing about this game that I like is that every year when you lose to a team you have to wait a whole year for a rematch," linebacker Jovon Burkes said. "The thing about this is that we only have to wait for a month and we were able to look at film and correct some mistakes."

The Falcons were hurt by turnovers in their loss to the RedHawks earlier this season. Brandon feels that preventing turnovers will be a key to beating the RedHawks this time.

"We ran into a good football team that we could not overcome turnovers and squander opportunities against, and that's what got us," he said. "When you do that against a good team, you're going to have a tough time winning. We need to

FALCONS PAGE 7

Ohio State loses big to Georgia Tech

By Rusty Miller

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBUS, Ohio — B.J. Elder and Marvin Lewis combined for nine points in a 13-0 first-half run and Isma'il Muhammad's high-wire dunk shifted the momentum in the second half to lead No. 13 Georgia Tech over Ohio State 73-53 last night in the ACC/Big Ten Challenge.

It was Ohio State's worst loss ever in its six years in Value City Arena, where the Buckeyes came in with a 69-13 record, including 13-3 against ranked opponents.

Elder finished with 18 points, Lewis had 15 and Jarrett Jack 14 for the Yellow Jackets (6-0), who matched their best start since the 1994-95 season.

Georgia Tech won the Preseason NIT last week, along the way pounding No. 1

Connecticut 77-61 and Texas Tech 85-65.

The Yellow Jackets' win was the fifth in six games for the ACC in the challenge. Georgia Tech came in having won just one of four games in the annual head-to-head meetings with the Big Ten, while Ohio State was 1-1.

Ricardo Billings and Velimir Radinovic each scored 12 points and J.J. Sullinger added 10 for Ohio State (2-3), which shot just 32.7 percent from the field and had 20 turnovers.

The Yellow Jackets led 10-8 when the Buckeyes didn't score for 9 1/2 minutes, missing all seven of their shots from the field with four turnovers as the lead expanded to 23-8.

Ohio State, down 34-23 at halftime, drew as close as 44-36 when Tony Stockman hit three free throws after he was fouled by Muhammad.

Muhammad, who finished with nine points, took away the

momentum the Buckeyes had gained when he dunked while jumping over Billings, and was fouled on the play. Even a partisan crowd of 13,859 oohed and aahed after Muhammad soared in for the three-point play.

Muhammad, averaging 15 points off the bench, then hit a rebound follow to make it 49-36.

Ohio State's worst previous loss at Value City Arena was 72-58 to Michigan State last March 8. Last season ended with the Buckeyes losing to Georgia Tech 72-58 in the first round of the NIT.

The Buckeyes, winners of 10 of 13 alltime against Georgia Tech, were 2-of-14 on 3s and had four players with at least three turnovers.

The Yellow Jackets have opened the season by outscoring opponents by an average of 22 points.

Cubs sign Twins' Hawkins

By Nancy Armour

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO — Scratch that right-handed setup man off the Chicago Cubs' wish list.

The Cubs confirmed yesterday they'd agreed to terms with free agent LaTroy Hawkins. The deal, which includes a player option for 2006, guarantees the pitcher \$11 million over three years.

Hawkins, who turns 31 later this month, was 9-3 with a 1.86 ERA in 77 1-3 innings for the Minnesota Twins. He had 75 strikeouts, and didn't allow a run over 20 games from July 31 to Sept. 14.

Hawkins was especially impressive in the opener of the playoffs against the New York Yankees, striking out four over two innings and getting the victory.

Hawkins was converted to a reliever in 2000, when the Twins made him their closer. He was moved to the setup role before the 2002 season, and is 15-3 with a 2.00 ERA in 139 games

since then.

"We were certainly hoping to bring him back," Twins general manager Terry Ryan said Tuesday night after being told Hawkins had signed with the Cubs.

"Obviously, he got security. It sounds like he got dollars. I could never fault a player for taking a deal that sets him up. I feel horrible about losing him. But I'm satisfied he's going to a place he wants to be. Unfortunately, it's not here."

The deal also puts Hawkins, a native of Gary, Ind., closer to home and gives him a chance to play for Dusty Baker.

Bolstering the bullpen was high on the list of priorities for Cubs general manager Jim Hendry this offseason. Cubs relievers were 20-19 with a 4.16 ERA, 16th in the majors.

Joe Borowski was a pleasant surprise, calmly filling the closer's role when Antonio Alfonseca got hurt in spring training and finishing with 33 saves. 60, 65 and 70 games.

BG SPORTS PICK OF THE WEEK

That chill you feel in the air is not the coming of winter, but rather the goose bumps of excitement that every BG fan feels right now. How can you not be excited? Regardless of rain or snow, you can count on two things: BG football and the picks of the week. Last call for the Doyt this season, so let's get fired up. Pick away!!



ZACH BAKER
Sports Editor



DAN GEDNEY
Asst. Sports Editor



BEN SWANGER
Photo Editor



ERIK BELL
BGRSO Stud

No. 14 Miami at No. 20 Bowling Green MIAMI 7 FAVORITE	Prediction Bowling Green	Prediction Bowling Green	Prediction Bowling Green	Prediction Bowling Green
	Score 29-20	Score 31-27	Score 28-21	Score 34-28
	Rant It's time to kick the J. Crew out of Miami U.	Rant MAC Champs! On to Detroit Rock City!	Rant Harris's last game at home, he will prevail.	Rant BG uses the energy from the fans to exact revenge.
Notre Dame at Syracuse NOTRE DAME 2 FAVORITE	Prediction Notre Dame	Prediction Syracuse	Prediction Syracuse	Prediction Notre Dame
	Score 12-10	Score 17-7	Score 0-0	Score 42-24
	Rant Rudy gets a pivotal sack ... team hoi...oh wait that's a film.	Rant No Bowl season for the Irish!!!	Rant Game called after 7 hours. Irish non bowl eligible.	Rant Who loses to Rutgers? Syracuse does.
Navy at Army No Line	Prediction Navy	Prediction Army	Prediction Navy	Prediction Navy
	Score 31-0	Score 24-3	Score 35-10	Score 55-10
	Rant We owe both so much.	Rant Going on loyalty, not logic here.	Rant Army hasn't won a game yet. So why start now?	Rant Navy is not that bad folks, they take this great rivalry game.
No. 5 Georgia at No. 3 LSU LSU 2.5 FAVORITE	Prediction LSU	Prediction LSU	Prediction Georgia	Prediction Georgia
	Score 26-23	Score 30-24	Score 14-7	Score 21-17
	Rant I like to think of Albert Belle hitting a game winner.	Rant Tigers missing the Sugar Bowl would be a real shame.	Rant Gotta root for the underdogs.	Rant It's revenge weekend, and Georgia gets a little piece of the pie.
No. 13 Kansas State at No. 1 Oklahoma OKLAHOMA 14 FAVORITE	Prediction Oklahoma	Prediction Oklahoma	Prediction Oklahoma	Prediction Oklahoma
	Score 41-0	Score 38-10	Score 49-7	Score 49-14
	Rant Sooner or later, they all fall in line.	Rant Sooners cannot be stopped.	Rant Kansas State holds them under 70 points.	Rant Are Sooners best college team ever? Could be
Oregon State at No. 2 USC USC 21 FAVORITE	Prediction USC	Prediction USC	Prediction Oregon State	Prediction USC
	Score 93-2	Score 28-6	Score 17-14	Score 49-28
	Rant Yeah, tough choice here.	Rant Trojans in the Sugar Bowl, unfortunately.	Rant Down with the BCS!!!	Rant Enjoy it USC fans cause it's gonna be ugly Jan. 3

QB Kitna holds on

By Joe Kay
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI — Jon Kitna just won't go away.

The journeyman dubbed as Carson Palmer's warmup act has turned into the NFL's hottest quarterback. Kitna has led the reborn Bengals into playoff contention and kept a Heisman Trophy passer on the bench.

Astonishing. "Think of all the doubts that people had about Kitna," receiver Chad Johnson said yesterday. "Just to see him playing the way he's playing, I'm loving every last minute of it."

Kitna was honored yesterday as the AFC Offensive Player of the Month for November, when the Bengals moved into playoff contention in large part because of their quarterback's solid play.

"He's the one doing it right," offensive tackle Willie Anderson said. "He's inspiring everyone around him. That's the trait of an MVP."

"When you pick an MVP of a league, you say, 'Can that team win without that guy?' And definitely we can't win without Jon. He's one of the biggest reasons this team has gotten to where we are."

No one expected him or the Bengals to get this far.

When Cincinnati took Palmer with the No. 1 pick in the draft, it looked like Kitna was about to lose his job, just as he did in Seattle after leading the Seahawks to a playoff appearance in 1999.

Coach Marvin Lewis assured Kitna that wasn't the case.

"We're not just going to bring in somebody and say, 'OK you're the quarterback,' and kick him to the curb," Lewis said. "Our football team couldn't stand that. They couldn't withstand going up on that roller coaster again."

Kitna believed him, but knew most fans and reporters did not.

"None of them thought I'd be playing now anyway," Kitna said. "And probably not a lot of you — if any of you — thought I'd be playing. They thought that Carson Palmer would be here."

There were 14 million reasons to think so. Palmer had the better arm and the much bigger contract, with \$14 million in bonuses alone. After Kitna's horrid performance in a season-opening drubbing by Denver the succession seemed clear.

That's when Lewis started driving home a point that has made all the difference.

Davis remains positive

By Tom Withers
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEREA, Ohio — By all appearances, Butch Davis' third season as coach of the Cleveland Browns has been a disaster. Davis, though, doesn't see it that way.

Asked yesterday if his plan to rebuild the Browns (4-8) into consistent winners was further ahead than he envisioned, Davis said, "Probably so, in some respects."

With all due respect, coach. Huh?

In truth, it's difficult to fathom what respects Davis could be referring to.

With four games remaining, the Browns, who have lost five of their last six games, are seemingly in disarray. Mathematically, they're still a long shot to make the AFC playoff race. Realistically,

their chances are slim to none.

Optimistic to a fault, Davis seems to be overlooking other problems with his team. Among the bigger ones:

— Running back William Green, the club's leading rusher, is serving an indefinite suspension from the NFL for violating terms of the substance-abuse program. His future with the team is unclear.

— Leading receiver Kevin Johnson was recently cut by Davis and is now starting for Jacksonville.

— Cleveland's offense hasn't scored a touchdown in its past two games and four times this season.

— Career backup Kelly Holcomb, handed the starting job before the season, has yet to show he can be the team's future

quarterback.

On top of that, the Browns last four games are against St. Louis, Denver, Baltimore and Cincinnati, four teams all fighting for playoff spots.

Coming off a trip to the playoffs, the Browns are staring 4-12 right in the facemask.

But Davis, whose teams went 7-9 and 9-7 — with a playoff appearance in 2002 — in his first two years in Cleveland, is confident in his plan and certain the Browns will finish the season strongly.

"The one thing I have very little reservation about with this team is its character and its pride and its competitiveness," Davis said. "We've got some shortcomings, and we've got some areas that certainly we're not as good today as we would have liked to have

been. But these guys are going to compete and they're going to play hard and we're going to try and win these games."

All of Cleveland's shortcomings will be on display for the nation Monday night when the Browns play the Rams (9-3). The Browns haven't played on Monday Night Football since 1995, and that alone should be motivation enough for them to play well.

"We're going to play hard because we're going to be in front of the whole world," safety Earl Little said.

In fairness to Davis, injuries have had something to do with the Browns' slide. He was quick to back up that point up by noting that Cleveland's starting offense has had 22 lineup changes since the final exhibition game.



Tony Dejak AP PHOTO

OPTIMISTIC: Browns' head coach Butch Davis is still positive about his team despite its recent slide. The Browns are 4-8 and face St. Louis Monday night.

No distraction for MU

REDHAWKS, FROM PAGE 6

back, who has gained attention as an NFL hopeful, will be facing the Falcons for the third time in his career. He threw for 305 yards against BG in 2001, and last month threw for 230 yards in Miami's 33-10 win.

Thirty-three points is the most that has been scored against the Falcons' defense this season. Only Kent State scored as many points against BG.

Roethlisberger said he and the Miami offense did not have their best game, despite the win.

"Last time we played [the BG

defense] they did well, we don't feel we played good on offense the last time we played," Roethlisberger said. "That was one of our lowest outputs of the season point-wise."

If 33 points seems like a lot, consider that Miami scored 56 against Central Florida, 49 against Ohio and 45 against Marshall.

Roethlisberger said he expected the Falcons to play aggressive on defense.

"They're gonna come after us, we know that," Roethlisberger said. "They will put pressure on us and try to stop some of our big

playmakers. We have to dictate what we want to do and not let them dictate what we do."

Miami has already accepted an invitation to the GMAC Bowl Dec. 18 in Mobile, Ala. It will be the Redhawks' first bowl appearance since 1986, but Hoepner said that they will not be facing a letdown against BG.

"We've had opportunities to be distracted, opportunities to have letdowns all year," Hoepner said. "... This team's had a lot of things thrown at them, and they've been able to focus and get ready to play ... this is for the MAC championship."

Past Falcons get credit

FALCONS, FROM PAGE 6

take care of the football and when we get down into the scoring zone we need to get touchdowns. If we do that, we'll have a chance to win this game."

Tonight's game will be the final appearance in Dwyer Perry Stadium for the seniors on the team. Brandon gives a lot of the credit to the senior leaders for getting the team to where it is today.

"The blood, sweat and the tears, going through three coaches, the program changes that these guys have been through, I savor that every day," he said. "This championship is going to be their championship. I told the seniors when I got the job that 'we'll go as far as you want to take us,' and now, we've got one more step."

Linebacker Mitch Hewitt, one

of the members of the senior class, credited past senior leaders for the team's success.

"Four years ago it would have been tough to envision [playing for the MAC title]. It's a testament not only to the seniors here, but to the seniors of the past," he said. "You have to give a lot of credit to those guys too because they laid the foundation. We're only now carrying on what they've established."

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| 6 | 8 cheesy bread, 5 wings & a 20oz. Coke |
| 7 | 1 small cheese pizza plus 1 of the following: 5 wings, cheesy bread, bread sticks or cinna sticks |

U.S. embassies warn terror attacks possible

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — U.S. Embassies on Tuesday warned of possible terror attacks against two hotels in Kenya and a housing compound for Westerners in Saudi Arabia. Kenyan police said they were investigating reports that terrorists had packed a truck with explosives for an imminent attack.

www.bgnews.com/world

WORLD

Iraqi workers demolish landmarks

By Aleksandar Vasovic
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Workers began demolishing gigantic bronze busts of Saddam Hussein in Baghdad on Tuesday, while U.S. troops to the north arrested at least 20 insurgents in a raid — both moves aimed at stamping out loyalty to Iraq's ousted regime.

Iraqi police said a senior former member of Saddam's elite Republican Guard was among those captured in Hawija, 155 miles north of Baghdad. However, the U.S. troops failed to catch the target of the raid — Izzat Ibrahim al-Douri, considered a key planner of attacks against U.S. troops.

Also in the north, insurgents kept up attacks against American-led forces, with a soldier of the 4th Infantry Division killed in a roadside explosion in Samarra, the scene of deadly weekend battles between

Americans and Iraqis.

Meanwhile, relatives of U.S. troops visiting Iraq pressed their agenda to meet with leaders of the occupation authority, hoping to voice their opposition to the U.S.-led occupation.

One mother held back tears while looking at U.S. soldiers guarding the entrance of the Habbaniyah military base in Baghdad.

"They are so young. This is not for them. ... They look just like my boy," said Annabelle Valencia, whose daughter, 24, and son, 22, are both based in Iraq.

Elsewhere in the capital, workers using a construction crane started dismantling the 13-foot busts of Saddam from his former Republican Palace, now the headquarters of the U.S.-led Coalition Provisional Authority.

It was unclear how long the work would take.

Lt. Col. William MacDonald, spokesman for the 4th Infantry

Division, said the raids in Hawija were aimed at capturing former regime members financing guerrilla attacks in the region.

Iraqi police said U.S. troops had captured more than 100 people, including a senior former member of Saddam's elite Republican Guard. Six Iraqis were wounded in the raid, but it wasn't immediately clear if they were all insurgents.

The U.S. Army's 173rd Airborne Brigade detained 20 suspected insurgents, but not al-Douri, the top Iraqi fugitive after Saddam. Earlier, a member of the U.S.-appointed Iraqi Governing Council had said al-Douri had been caught.

"We have no reports that we have captured or killed al-Douri," MacDonald said.

MacDonald said the confusion stemmed from local officials' statements that linked the raids to the hunt for al-Douri.

U.S. officials, who two weeks

ago posted a \$10 million bounty for al-Douri, have pointed to him as a coordinator of incessant attacks on American forces in Iraq. They suspect he could also be working with the al-Qaida-linked militant group Ansar al-Islam.

The 10 members of the delegation of troops' relatives, who arrived in Iraq this week, said they want to see the reality faced by both U.S. troops and Iraqis.

The group, sponsored by U.S.-based non-governmental organizations that oppose the occupation, includes two wives of soldiers based at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, and four veterans of the Vietnam and Gulf wars — two of them with children on duty in Iraq.

Fernando Suarez del Solar, 48, who heads the delegation, said being in Iraq made him feel "closer" to his son, who was killed earlier this year. Marine Lance Cpl. Jesus Suarez del Solar, 20, died in

March during the invasion of Iraq when he stepped on an unexploded cluster bomb or a land mine.

During their weeklong visit, the delegates hope to meet represen-

tatives of the U.S.-picked Iraqi Governing Council, human rights organizations, and women's organizations, Suarez said.



Samir Mizban AP photo

GOT GAS?: Iraqis buy gas canisters in downtown Bagdad yesterday. People use gas for cooking and heating due to regular power shortages in the capital

Alleged cannibal: victim wanted to be killed

By Inge Treichel
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

KASSEL, Germany — A German computer expert — charged with killing, dismembering and eating the flesh of an Internet acquaintance — made a detailed confession at the opening of his murder trial yesterday. The accused said he was only doing what the victim wanted.

Armin Meiwes, 42, who lived in an ancient former manor house in Rotenburg, gave chilling testimony about how his fantasy of finding someone to become "a part of me" turned real. Rotenburg is a central German town about 20 miles southeast of Kassel.

Meiwes — a poised, slender man wearing a dark suit and tie

— described matter-of-factly how Bernd Juergen Brandes, 43, traveled from Berlin to visit him in March 2001 in reply to an Internet advertisement seeking a young man for "slaughter and consumption."

Meiwes said his fantasies began as a child, when he felt lonely and imagined killing and eating a "younger brother." He said he got more than 400 responses to his Internet solicitation from people who wanted to join him in acting out the fantasy.

Meiwes told the state court that he and his victim chatted for several weeks on the Internet. When they met, he said, Brandes undressed.

"Now you can see my body. I hope you'll find me tasty,"

Meiwes quoted his visitor as saying. Brandes later said he wanted to be stabbed to death after drinking a bottle of cold medicine to lose consciousness, Meiwes testified.

Meiwes said he stabbed his victim the next morning, believing he was already dead, and recorded his act on a videotape that is being used as evidence.

"I kissed him once more, prayed and pleaded for forgiveness," Meiwes told the court.

He said he froze some of the dismembered body parts, eating the flesh over the following months, and buried others in the garden. Police who searched Meiwes' home found human flesh and bones.

Court-appointed psychiatrists

found Meiwes fit to stand trial. Prosecutors say the killing was sexually motivated and filed murder charges, despite concluding that the killing had the victim's consent.

Meiwes' attorney argued against murder charges, saying the slaying was a form of mercy killing. Meiwes faces life in prison if convicted of murder.

"My friend enjoyed the dying, his death," Meiwes was quoted recently by a local newspaper.

Seeking to bolster his claim that he acted according to the wishes of others, Meiwes testified that he had at least five other respondents to his Internet ads at his home but let them go — including a teacher who offered himself as a "devoted pig for

slaughter."

Another man wanted to act out his fantasy of slaughtering co-workers. When Meiwes suspended him from a pulley-and-rope device set up in his home as part of the role playing, the man got sick and left after being freed, Meiwes said.

A man who said he wanted to be beheaded also showed up, but Meiwes said he sent him away because he was too fat and not talkative enough.

Police tracked down and arrested Meiwes last December after a student in Austria alerted them to an advertisement Meiwes placed on the Internet seeking a man willing to be killed and eaten. A verdict is expected in February.



Boris Roessler Pool AP photo

Grusome: Armin Meiwes placed an Internet ad, looking for someone to be consumed.

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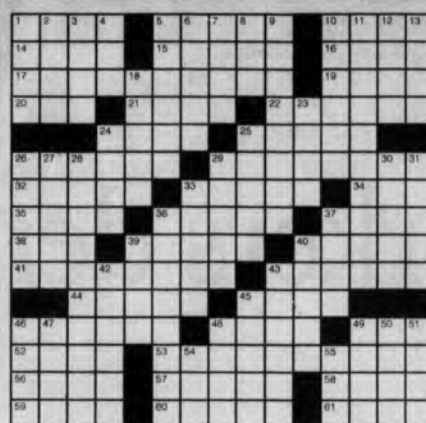
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KAPLAN


- 1 "Barney Miller" character
2 Teheran's place
3 Bit of data
4 North American reindeer
5 Groom-to-be
6 Roper and Lincoln
7 DeLuise and DiMaggio
8 French one
9 Potential hole-in-one hole
10 Jockey on five Derby winners
11 Compone
12 Out of control
13 Shafts of light
18 Phone greeting
23 Embraces
24 Night: pref.
25 Golfers' rides
26 Spelunker
27 Socialist Italian P.M. (1992-93)
28 National Park in California
29 Lead

- 30 Subsequent
31 once in a while
33 Vouchers
36 Canteen
37 Unit of distance
39 Scant
40 Piano control
42 Stretcher
43 Turns red
45 Track star
46 Whirl around
47 Let up
48 Mother of Clytemnestra
49 around the block
50 Yikes!
51 Brief sample
54 Five before six
55 Baton Rouge sch.

DOWN

ACROSS

- 1 Married woman
5 At one's wits' end
10 Open some
14 By mouth
15 Ms. Massey
16 Fellini film
17 Pavement breaker
19 Bok (Chinese cabbage)
20 Toronto's prov.
21 Slaughter of baseball
22 Word of gratitude
24 Acronym before World Series
25 Butter maker
26 Sweet-talk
29 Grotesque gutter spout
32 Exxon rival
33 Remedies
34 Cleveland pro
35 Expansive
36 Chess side
37 Spouse

- 38 Afr. nation
39 Hotel staffers
40 Penny-pincher
41 Vegas wheel
43 Salad leafstalk
44 Buenos
45 Traveled on horseback
46 Hunting dog
48 Refrain syllables
49 Garden plot
52 Section
53 Typical male student
56 Words of realization
57 Beneath
58 Sewing line
59 "...the twain shall meet"
60 Transmission components
61 Cancel

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WILL BE RENTING FOR 2004-2005 STARTING NOVEMBER 1st. STOP BY FOR LISTING

Call 353-5800

MECCA
Management Inc.

716 Wooster

1 bdrm

410/mo + Elec.

Across from Campus

OPEN NOW

MECCA
Management Inc.

Hillsdale Apt., 1082 Fairview

1 & 2 Bdrm Apts./

3 Bdmr Twnh.

Dishwasher - Garbage

Disposal - Washer/Dryer

Hook-up(2/3 bdrm)

carports

Running a Special on new 2 Bedrooms Open Now

BGSU Bus stop

MECCA
Management Inc.

Evergreen Apt., 215 E Poe

studios/2-2bdms

Laundry on site

BGSU bus stop

OPEN NOW

MECCA
Management Inc.

202 Palmer

4 bdrm house

1 1/2 car garage

MECCA
Management Inc.

Stop by the Office at

1045 N. Main St. or

check website

www.meccabg.com

for complete listing

for next year.

GOOD LUCK FALCONS!
BEAT MIAMI
WIN THE MAC!

Travel

- #1 Spring Break Vacations! Hottest Destinations-Best Prices. Book Now! Campus Reps Wanted. 1-800-234-7007. endlesssummertours.com

- Spring Break 2004 w/ STS, America's #1 Student Tour Operator. Group discounts! 800-648-4849 or www.ststravel.com

- SPRING BREAK 2004! Beach Life Vacations! Jamaica, Cancun, Acapulco, Bahamas, Florida. Sell Trips, Earn Cash, Travel Free! Call 1-800-733-6347. www.beachlifevacations.com

- INTER AND SPRING BREAK** ...at Beach Trips on sale now! www.Sunchase.com or call 1-800-SUNCHASE today!

Services Offered

- Basic/ Advanced WICCA classes. Starts in January. www.geocities.com/spottedredhead

- Pregnant? Know all the facts. Confidential, free testing & support. 354-4673 BG Pregnancy Center

Personals

- **Thursday pre-game at Brathaus the great happy hour 3-9pm. Free hotdogs. Go Falcons!**

- Come see the AIDS Quilt. 11 AM - 6 PM. December 1-4 Union Ballroom National AIDS Awareness Week

- FINANCIAL FREEDOM** Eliminatedebts.com/cjd Call Carol at 734-457-5977.

- Learn a skill for life. Take PEG 157 Western Horsemanship. Check us out at Sandersonstables.com

- The Great Friday Happy Hour at Brathaus 4-9pm including \$2.50 hot dogs steamed in beer.**

Wanted

- 2 Female subleasers needed Jan. 2004. Lg. house, 1 blk. from campus, inexpensive. Call 308-0926.**

- 2 subleasers needed- move in as early as Dec. 22. New 2 bdrm close to campus. 1 mo. free 419-378-1141 or 419-499-4472.

- Female roommate. for Spring. Furn. room w/ bath. \$300/mo. incl. all. 419-352-5037. Leave message.

- Female sub-leaser needed for Spring semester. Own room. In 2 bdrm. townhouse. Call 513-258-5990.

- Female sub-leaser needed.** Move in ASAP. Lease ends May 2004. 5 min. walk from campus. Call for info. 419-306-8384.

- Graduation Tickets Needed Willing To Pay. Please call (419)494-6085 or (419)352-6449

- Graduation tickets needed. Will pay- Please call Molly. (440) 225-1439.

- Sub-leaser needed for Jan. thru May. Own bdrm. \$240/mo. 716 E. Wooster. Call 353-5029 if interested.

- Sub-leaser(s) needed for 2 bdrm apt. on Napoleon from Jan. 04-July 04. Free heat, high-speed internet, and campus shuttle. Contact Quillie at 419-354-9724/quilliehuntjr@aol.com

- Your Own Room \$260/mo. + util. 1 block from campus. Stay until May or Aug. Call Emily 352-7577.

- IBARTENDING!** \$300/day potential. No exp. necessary. Training provided. Call 800-965-6520 ext. 174.

- Bartender trainees needed.** \$250 a day potential. Local positions. 1-800-293-3985 ext. 541

Help Wanted

- Child care needed Spring sem.in our Perrysburg home for 4 yr. old & 1 yr. old. Up to 4 half days per wk. Early childhood ed. or related major pref. Call now- Sem. break hrs. avail. too. Call Ann Marie at 419-874-0878.

- Get Paid For Your Opinions! Earn \$15-\$125 & more per survey! www.paidonlineopinions.com

- If you are looking for summer employment come and join the conference staff team this summer and work with residential camps & conferences. Persons should have excellent customer service skills and knowledge of the campus. For more information, please contact the Conference Programs Office, 372-9225.

- Need money for Spring Break? Looking for highly motivated people to work in a fun & rewarding environment. Starting \$8.50/hr. Hours of job are 4-9 M-F. Can make up to \$15/hr. + \$200 sign on bonus Hiring Immed. Must be able to work over Christmas Break. PT position can go FT. For more info. call Kris at 419-874-5004 at TruGreen Chemlawn.

- Office cleaning-evenings. 5-7 hrs. per week. Own transportation required. Call 352-5335.

- Seeking PT nanny for 1 baby, 1 toddler in Maumee. 7 am-1 pm, 2 days/ wk. Light housekeeping fun family, good pay. For interview call 419-891-7349.

- Thursday pre-game at Brathaus the great happy hour 3-9pm. Free hotdogs. Go Falcons!**

- Waitstaff, host/hostess, cooks & kitchen help. bus persons, flex. hrs. excellent pay. Apply in person. Yoko Japanese Restaurant. 465 W. Dussel Dr. Maumee.

- WINTER BREAK WORK!** \$14.25 Base/ Appt. *Entry level sales/ cust. Service *1-6 week work program *Earn cash for holidays *All ages 18+. Conditions exist *Call Now 419-861-6133 or apply @ semesterbreakwork.com

For Sale

- \$500! Cars/trucks from \$500. Police impounds, Hondas, Chevys etc. For listing 800-719-3001 ext 4558.

- 3 bedrooms, 2 baths Fore closure only. \$9500. For listings call 800-719-3001 ext. H 584.

- The Great Friday Happy Hour at Brathaus 4-9pm including \$2.50 hot dogs steamed in beer.**

For Rent

- ** 2nd sem. 2 bdrm. apt. avail. \$450 mo. 2 blks. from campus. Quiet residential area. Also, studio apts. \$395 mo. incl. util. 353-0325, 9am-9pm.**

- ** Next sch. yr. 04-05 Listings Avail. Houses on Wooster St., also apts. Pick up 24/7 at 316 E. Merry #3 or will mail. Call 353-0325 9am - 9pm.**

- ** Now leasing fully furn. efficiencies** Efficiencies avail now & second sem \$465 for 1 person, monthly leases, includes all util., cable, phone. Call Buckeye Inn & Studios 352-1520.

- 1 girl rmt. needed for Spring Sem. 2004. Low rent, new, well-kept apt, close to campus. For further info, please call (440) 479-7683.

- 1 roommate. needed. Own bdrm., 1 block from campus. Jan.-Aug. Free cable. Call Jeff 353-4373.

- Unfurnished, 1 bdrm, lease now till Aug. No pets. 419-352-4650

- 1 sub-leaser needed for Spring sem. 2 bdrm. apt. Close to campus. Rent \$290/mo. neg. Tim. 216-244-0748.

BOWLING GREEN'S Premier PLACE FOR FUN
Beckett's
144 North Main 352-7800

We're Booking HOLIDAY PARTIES Here Sam's RESTAURANT
163 S. MAIN-BG
FOR RESERVATIONS 419-353-2277

Overflow a worship experience
First Sunday of each & every month @ 7:30pm
Vineyard Church
1180 N. Main Street- just north of Krogers